MARVEL COMICS

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WHAT WILL BE

THE NEW FACE OF DOOM 2099

DIRECT EDITION

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PAT BRODERICK
AFTER CAVALIERI

THE LIZARD KING LIES DEAD, A CREATURE OF THE PAST FELLED BY THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE PRESENT.

FROM A CAUTIOUS DISTANCE, VULOC OF THE SWAMP TRIBE STUDIED THE TYRANNOSAUR CAREFULLY—

— MAKING CERTAIN NO LIFE REMAINED IN THAT MASSIVE CARCASS BEFORE HE MOVED CLOSER.

WERE THE REPTILE MERELY WOUNDED, THOSE MIGHTY JAWS COULD CRUSH THE BONES AND REND THE FLESH OF THE MIGHTIEST OF WARRIORS.

AND NOT EVEN THE GLEAMING ARMOR, SHINING SO APPEALINGLY IN THE SAVAGE LAND BESIDE THE LIZARD, COULD MAKE HIM RISK SUCH A FATE.

IN A SURPRISING BIT OF LOGIC FOR ONE AS SLOW WITTED AS VULOC, HE DECIDES THAT THE ARMOR MUST BELONG TO AN OUTLANDER—

— AND IMAGINES HE WILL BE REWARDED FOR ITS RETURN.

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TO SAY THAT THE SAVAGE LAND IS A DANGEROUS PLACE IS TO UNDERSTATE THE HAZARD-FROUGHT REALITY OF THIS PHENOMENAL LANDSCAPE.

IN THIS STRANGE POCKET OF TROPICAL JUNGLE, HIDDEN IN THE EXPANSE OF THE FROZEN ANTARCTIC, WILD THINGS RUN FREE AND FIERCE--

— NOT ONLY ON THE GROUND, BUT IN THE AIR AS WELL.

MURDERER!

YOU WILL PAY FOR YOUR CRIME!

STan Lee PRESENTS:

A SAFARI OF THE SOUL RELAYED FROM POINTS SOUTH BY JOHN MOORE PAT BRODERICK JOHN NYBERG JOHN COSTANZA CHRISTIE SCHEELE JOEY CAVALIERI AND TOM DEFALCO, GRAVEN IDOL OF MILLIONS

STRANGERS IN THE JUNGLE

TAKE HIM, LEIBOWITZ.

HIS KIND *SICKENS* ME.

WHOA, HAWK-- I SEND YOU OUT ON A LITTLE *RECON*, AND YOU COME BACK WITH *CARGO*.

SINCE WHEN DO YOU RUIN *FREIGHT*?

THIS ONE KILLED A *TYRANNOSAUR* IN THE AVIAN GROVE.

THAT REDUCES THE HERD TO LESS THAN *TWENTY*.

BLASTED *HUNTERS*. I'D LIKE TO STRING THEM ALL UP...

HOLD ON, CHALDA, BEFORE YOU AND HAWK *CONVICT* THIS BOY, LET'S FIND OUT WHAT HE WAS DOING ALONE IN THE JUNGLE.

THE ALCHEMAX CREW USUALLY HUNTS IN *PACKS*--

-- AND NONE OF THEM ARE OUTFITTED IN *CYBER-MESH*.

STAY *AWAY* FROM ME. UNGGHHH...

GUESS THAT OL' REX GOT IN A FEW GOOD SHOTS BEFORE GOING DOWN.

ZARR, THERE ARE *BANDAGES* IN MY MEDKIT. GET THEM.

WHERE *AM* I? AND WHO *ARE* YOU PEOPLE?

YOU ARE IN THE *VILLAGE OF THE SKY*. I AM *CHALDA*. THE OVERLY CHARITABLE AMERICAN IS *MY HUSBAND*, CARSON LEIBOWITZ.

YOU KNOW, I HAVE A *SALVE* MADE FROM THE DRAGON ROOT THAT CAN *REPAIR* SOME OF THE SCARRED TISSUE ON YOUR FACE.

I DO NOT NEED YOUR *PITY*, WOMAN.

YOU'D BETTER TAKE ANYTHING YOU CAN *GET*.

GIVEN ALCHEMAX'S AGGRESSIVE *DISREGARD* FOR THE LAWS OF THE UNIFIED TRIBES, WE'VE *LITTLE* SYMPATHY FOR FOREIGNERS.

YOU WASTED YOUR TIME, CHALDA. THIS ONE DESERVES NO CHARITY. HE CARES *NOTHING* FOR THE SANCTITY OF THE LAND.

HIS SOUL HAS BEEN BOUGHT AND PAID FOR BY HIS *CORPORATE* MASTERS.

YOUR PRESUMPTION IS *OFFENSIVE*, MUTANT. I ANSWER TO NO ONE.

AND I SUGGEST YOU *LOSE* THE SHRILL *MORAL* INDIGNATION.

YOU'RE NO MORE A *NATIVE* THAN I AM, *BLOODHAWK.*

YOU KNOW MY *NAME?*

WE FOUGHT TOGETHER AGAINST THE AESIR TWO MONTHS PAST.

I AM *VICTOR VON DOOM.*

THE *LATVERIAN?*

RIGHT. AND I'M *MOWGLI.*

IS EVERY OUTLANDER THIS DELUDED?

NO OFFENSE, HAWK.

WHILE MY ESCAPE FROM THE CHIN SHAN PLATFORM TO THE SAVAGE LAND MAY HAVE TEMPORARILY *DISORIENTED* ME*---

-- IT HAS NOT *CLOUDED* MY REASON.

ONCE I *RETRIEVE* MY ARMOR AND EFFECT REPAIRS UPON IT--

-- I WILL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR *ECO-SKIRMISHES.*

*LAST ISSUE.--- JOEY

YOU ESCAPED FROM A CHINESE *SPACE STATION?*

YOUR STORY GROWS *MORE AND MORE OUTRAGEOUS.*

I DUNNO, HAWK. THE NEWSNET REPORTED A CHINESE SATELLITE EXPLODED TWO DAYS AGO.

MAYBE THERE'S SOME TRUTH IN THAT YARN.

EITHER WAY, HE PICKED A LOUSY TIME TO LAND HEAD FIRST IN THE *SAVAGE LAND.*

EVER SINCE THE UNITED NATIONS *DISBANDED* AND THE UNIFIED TRIBES FINALLY GAINED AUTONOMY--

-- BUT THERE'S *ALWAYS* A FOREIGN INTEREST TRYING TO STRIPMINE THE LAND'S NATURAL RESOURCES.

YOU GOT THAT RIGHT.

IN THE PAST YEAR, AN ALCHEMAX EXEC NAMED *L'ARGENT* CONVINCED THE *SWAMP* TRIBE TO GIVE HIM DRILLING RIGHTS TO THEIR LAND--

SINCE THEN, ALCHEMAX BOYS HAVE BEEN RUNNING *ROUGHSHOD* OVER THE LAND AND ANY OPPOSITION FROM THE OTHER TRIBES.

YOU *SWEAR* YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THEIR *ERRAND* BOYS?

-- AND THAT I SALVAGED AND CLAIMED THEIR FLOATING CITY STICKS IN THEIR COLLEC-TIVE--

I AM NO FRIEND TO ALCHEMAX. IF THEY COULD, THEY WOULD SEE *ME DEAD.*

THAT I RULE LATVERIA ANNOYS THEM.

THAT I BROUGHT DOWN THEIR CORPORATELY CREATED PANTHEON ANGERS THEM--

VICTOR, YOU *OKAY?*

ODD. HE JUST *STOPPED* IN MID-SENTENCE.

SUDDENLY, ALL MY CERTAINTY OF SELF SLIPS AWAY, BORNE ON AN ICE-COLD WIND--

-- AND I AM LEFT WITHOUT PAST OR PRESENT ON WHICH TO ANCHOR MYSELF.

THEN, INCOMPREHENSIBLY, I FIND THE PIECES OF ANOTHER'S LIFE RESOLVING WITH CRYSTAL CLARITY.

HE'S COMING TO...

WHAT HAPPENED?

HE WILL BE PERFECT FOR THE PROCEDURE.

HE IS SOOO LIKE YOU, MY LOVE.

THE WOMAN'S VOICE KNOTS MY STOMACH AND CLAWS AT MY HEART.

I ENDURE UNFATHOMABLE PAIN AT HER HAND.

STRANGEST STILL IN THIS INTRUSIVE, FOREIGN MEMORY...

I AM THERE- WATCHING, ALOOF AND UNREADABLE --

-- AN ENIGMA TO EVEN MYSELF.

PARTNER, YOU JUST FADED AS CLOSE TO BLACK AS YOU CAN GET WITHOUT FALLING DOWN.

I AM... ALL RIGHT...

BLOODHAWK, TAKE ME TO WHERE YOU FOUND ME.

I MUST RETRIEVE MY ARMOR.

NOW.

THE TEMPLE OF THE BLACK SUN, GRAVESTONE OF A LONG DEAD CIVILIZATION, ABANDONED CENTURIES BEFORE THE SWAMP TRIBE CLAIMED IT FOR THEIR OWN.

GIVE IT A *REST*, RAOUL. YOU'RE *MAD* BECAUSE THAT *TRUCK* YOU LOST IS COMING OUT OF *YOUR* PAY CHECK!*

WE WOULDN'T BE HERE DRILLING FOR *VIBRANIUM*, IF L'ARGENT HADN'T ESTABLISHED A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TRIBE'S ELDERS.

YEAH, THAT *TOO*, KINCAID, BUT I'M SERIOUS ABOUT *L'ARGENT*. HE'S GONE *BONGO CONGO* CRAZY.

LOOK AT ALL THE TIME HE'S SPENDING WITH THAT CREEPY SWAMP *WITCH DOCTOR*.

MISTER KINCAID SIR... I MUST TALK NOW TO MISTER L'ARGENT SIR.

*LAST ISSUE.

VULOC... RIGHT? *SORRY*, VULOC, HE'S INSIDE THE TEMPLE WITH YOUR TRIBE *SHAMAN*.

< THE BLACK SUN *BURNS* THROUGH YOUR FLESH *AND INTO* YOUR SOUL-->

< ONCE *MARKED*, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE ITS *HEAT* UNTIL YOU LIE ON YOUR DEATHBED-->

I *HATE* THIS PLACE.

IT'S *HOTTER* THAN HADES AND *TWICE* AS HUMID.

THE BUGS TREAT THE *INSECT REPELLENT* I'M WEARING LIKE A *HOLLANDAISE* SAUCE.

ALL THE LOCALS EXCEPT FOR THE *SWAMP NEANDERTHALS DESPISE* US.

AND HERE AT THE HOMESTEAD, THE *BOSS'S* CIRCUITS ARE *FUSING*.

< YOU WILL BECOME AN *EMBER* OF THE DARK *FURNACE*-->

L'ARGENT.

KINCAID, I *TOLD* YOU--

... NOT TO DISTURB YOU UNLESS IT WAS *IMPORTANT*.

THIS *IS*.

ONE OF THE *GREAT UNWASHED* FOUND THIS NOT TOO FAR FROM THE SKY VILLAGE.

NO.

I TRAVEL TO THE *FARTHEST* ENDS OF THE EARTH TO *CIRCUMVENT* HIS INFERNAL *MACHINATIONS*--

-- AND STILL HE FINDS *ME*.

THE AVIAN GROVE.

GONE!

MY ARMOR IS GONE!

MAYBE A CHANGE FOR THE *BEST*, VICTOR.

SEEMS TO ME YOU'VE SPENT TOO MUCH TIME *FOIL WRAPPED*.

A PERSON NEEDS TO FEEL THE *WIND* IN HIS HAIR, THE *SUN* AGAINST HIS SKIN.

-- OF COURSE, THAT'S WITH THE PROPER *UV BLOCK*.

THE OZONE'S A LITTLE *THIN* THIS FAR SOUTH.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, LEIBOWITZ. THAT ARMOR IS LITERALLY A *PART* OF ME--

-- I AM LINKED *PHYSICALLY* TO IT BY A NANO-CIRCUITRY INTERFACE IMPLANT.

THEN YOU'D BETTER LEARN TO LIVE WITHOUT IT, DOOM...

THE SAVAGE LAND IS A ENORMOUS PLACE--

"— WHEN THINGS GET LOST, THEY TEND TO STAY THAT WAY."

I WISH I HAD WINGS...

THESE SOLAR FLIGHT TURBINES CAN BARELY KEEP UP WITH YOU.

LEIBOWITZ SAID YOU'RE A *MUTANT*.

LEIBOWITZ *TALKS* TOO MUCH, ZARR.

BUT I OWE HIM *MORE* THAN I CAN *EVER* REPAY FOR HELPING ME FIND *MEANING* AND *PURPOSE* IN THIS LIFE--

-- WHICH IS WHY I JOURNEYED HERE WHEN HE TOLD ME HE NEEDED *HELP* AGAINST THE ALCHEMAX *THUGS*.

WE FOUND *TRACKS* LEADING TO THE *RIVER*. *MAYBE SIX* HOURS OLD.

DEFINTELY A *SWAMPER*. THE PRINTS WERE DEEP ENOUGH TO SUGGEST HE WAS CARRYING A HEAVY LOAD.

MIGHT BE DOOM'S ARMOR. MIGHT BE A KILL. THEY COME UP HERE TO HUNT.

THEN WE MUST *PURSUE* THIS SCAVENGER.

[redacted] *FAST*, VICTOR. THIS BOY'S [redacted] UP RIVER INTO THE *SWAMPLANDS*.

THE SWAMP TRIBE'S *REFUSED* TO JOIN THE UNIFIED TRIBE COUNCIL.

THEY'RE *SAVAGELY* TERRITORIAL.

IF YOU [redacted] TRULY THE BRILLIANT SCIENTIST AND LEADER YOU *PROFESS* TO BE, DOOM--

-- YOU SHOULD NOT NEED THE *ARMOR* TO GIVE YOU *POWER*.

UNLESS THAT METAL SHELL IS ALL THAT DEFINES YOU.

ALL I KNOW IS THAT THE *LAST* SCOUTS WE SENT TO INVESTIGATE THE *ALCHEMAX* DRILLING SITE *NEVER* RETURNED.

YOU'RE ASKING FOR *TROUBLE* IF YOU HEAD INTO THE *SWAMP*.

THEN I WILL GO *ALONE*.

IT IS *IMPERATIVE* I RETRIEVE MY *ARMOR*--

-- AT *ANY* COST.

LATER...

YOU'VE SAID THAT THE SWAMP TRIBE IS EXCEEDINGLY *HOSTILE* TO *ANY* AND *ALL* OUTSIDERS.

THEN HOW DID *ALCHEMAX* SECURE DRILLING [redacted] IN THE HEART OF THEIR LAND?

THE *CORPORATION* SENT A HOTSHOT EXEC NAMED *CHRISTIAN L'ARGENT* DOWN HERE.

THE RUMOR SAYS TYLER STONE SIGNED THE TRANSFER TO KEEP L'ARGENT AWAY FROM HIS JOB.

ANYWAY, L'ARGENT DID HIS *RESEARCH*, LEARNING THE OLD SWAMP LANGUAGE AND CUSTOMS BEFORE HEADING UP RIVER. *ALONE*.

MOST OUTLANDERS WOULD HAVE HAD THEIR THROATS CUT THE MOMENT THEY WERE SPOTTED.

-- BUT L'ARGENT *MANAGED* TO TALK HIS WAY INTO THE [redacted] CIRCLE [redacted] THE SHAMAN ELDERS.

HE CONVINCED THEM ALCHEMAX'S INTERESTS WERE THEIRS.

I [redacted] ADMIRE HIS CONVICTION. HE IS CLEARLY *MORE* THAN A SIMPLE [redacted]

LATELY, VICTOR, I'VE HEARD REPORTS THAT L'ARGENT HAS SPENT LESS TIME OVERSEEING THE SITE, AND MORE TIME WITH THE SHAMANS--

-- DEVELOPING A HEAVY APPETITE FOR BLACK LOTUS EXTRACT, A DANGEROUS PSYCHEDELIC.

ARE YOU SAYING HE'S UNSTABLE?

A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY.

SPLORSH

SPLORSH

DID I MENTION YOU SHOULD KEEP YOUR HANDS AND ARMS INSIDE THE BOAT AT ALL TIMES?

WHY, AM I SO UNEASY?

PERHAPS BLOODHAWK IS RIGHT. [redacted] I LET MY [redacted] DEFINE MY IDENTITY?

WITHOUT IT, DO I FEAR THAT I AM SOMEONE ELSE?

I CANNOT BELIEVE I [redacted] CAUGHT [redacted] SUCH [redacted] EXISTENTIAL [redacted].

I'VE TURNED OFF THE ENGINES. THAT'S THE SWAMP TEMPLE AHEAD.

WE'LL STASH THE BOAT AND PROCEED ON FOOT.

NO NEED ANNOUNCING OUR PRESENCE.

UH, OH.

I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT--

"— THEY ALREADY KNOW WE'RE HERE!"

< KILL THE OUTSIDERS! >

< KILL! >

THEY DROP FROM THE TREES WITH BLOODCHILLING YELLS—

— THEIR HEARTS RACING FROM THE ADRENAL PUSH CAUSED BY THE RIVER ROOTS THEY CHEW.

FOR THE SWAMP TRIBESMEN SEE NO WORTH IN THE TRAPPINGS OF PROGRESS—

— THEY VALUE ONLY FIRE AND BLOOD.

I TOLD YOU THIS WAS A *BAD* IDEA, LEIBOWITZ!

IF WE'RE LUCKY WE CAN GET OUT OF HERE WITH ONLY A FEW *PERMANENT* SCARS.

I *KNOW*. I *KNOW*.

I DIDN'T INTEND ON USING THIS *TRANK* GUN ON ANYTHING OTHER THAN HOSTILE WILDLIFE.

BUT, I GUESS THIS *QUALIFIES*.

CLANG

NO *TRACTION* ON THIS WET DECK-- CAN'T KEEP MY BAL--

< YOUR *FOREIGN* GODS CANNOT HELP YOU NOW, OUTLANDER-->

< THE GOD OF THE BLACK SUN DEMANDS BLOOD FOR YOUR *TRES-PASS*.>

SPLORSH

NOT SO FAST, PARD!

WHUMP

A REPRIEVE.

FWOOOSH

AW, SHUCK.

I DIDN'T WANT TO KILL HIM.

IT WAS EITHER HIM OR ME, LIEBOWITZ.

YOU HAVE MY GRATITUDE.

UNLIKE SOME OF MY COLLEAGUES, I STILL BELIEVE IN THE SANCTITY OF LIFE.

CALL ME AN OLD FASHIONED COUNTRY DOCTOR, BUT I TOOK THE HIPPOCRATIC--

THAT LIGHT--

IT'S NOT THE SWAMPERS--

PREPARE TO BE BOARDED.

WE HAVE YOU LOCKED IN OUR SIGHTS.

ANY MOVEMENT WILL BE ASSUMED HOSTILE.

I'LL *SHOW* YOU HOSTILE.

WHAT IN BLAZES IS THAT?

HAWK... *NO!!!*

THE *MUTANT* HEARD SKIES RECRUITED.

TAKE IT DOWN.

ARRGH!

KALOW

I REALIZE AS AN ALCHEMAX REPRESENTATIVE I DON'T *LEGALLY* HAVE JURISDICTION HERE.

BUT I'M HOLDING THE *GUNS*--

-- AND *INTER-NATIONAL* LAW DOESN'T *MEAN* TOO MUCH HERE.

NOW FISH YOUR GARGOYLE FRIEND OUT OF THE WATER HE EEL BAIT.

L'ARGENT WANTS TO ALL OF YOU.

HOW DID YOU *CONVINCE* THE *SWAMP ELDERS* TO LET YOU BRING DRILLING EQUIPMENT TO THEIR *SACRED* TEMPLE GROUNDS?

L'ARGENT CAN BE PERSUASIVE.

I BET THE CONTRACT WAS WRITTEN IN *BLOOD*.

YOU WOULDN'T BE *WRONG*, BOY.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL *REPERCUSSIONS* VIBRANIUM COULD HAVE ON THE *SAVAGE* LAND?

IF YOU DISRUPT ANY OF THE GEO-THERMAL WELLS, YOU COULD DAMAGE THE ECO-[redacted] *IRREVOCABLY*.

THERE DRILLING MAY ALREADY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SEISMIC ACTIVITY EXPERIENCED RECENTLY.

NO...

MY *ARMOR*...

CAN'T WAIT 'TIL THIS *ASSIGNMENT'S* THROUGH--

-- THIS *CRO-MAG COMPOST HEAP* KEEPS GETTING WEIRDER ALL THE TIME--

HEY QUIT SHAKIN' THE POLE--

I'M NOT SHAK--

RRUMBLLEE

RRRRUMBLE

WATCH THE STEAM FISSURES!
NOT AGAIN!
MOVE AWAY FROM THE OBELISK!

WELCOME TO THE *APOCALYPSE*, STRANGERS.

THE TIME OF TRUTH *NEARS*...

AS THE EARTH *CRUMBLES* BELOW OUR FEET---

OUR CIVILIZED VENEER WILL BE *STRIPPED* AWAY--

-- AND OUR DARK SAVAGE HEARTS WILL STAND *REVEALED*.

BULLPEN BULLETINS

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Did you ever wonder what your favorite comics creators would be doing if they weren't creating comics? Well, even if you didn't, here's your chance to find out!

Ian Churchill (artist on the all-new DEADPOOL Limited Series): I'd probably be unemployed! Before I started working in comics, I was working as a graphic designer, but we have a big recession over here (in England). If it was a perfect world, I'd probably be doing graphic design, but I much prefer comics!

Bud LaRosa (inker on BLAZE): I would be a pyrotechnician. I used to sell fireworks for one of the biggest wholesalers in Brooklyn. We did all the big shows — the Fourth of July, the Statue of Liberty anniversary, New Year's Eve — all big events like that. But working on comics is a lot more safe!

Jan Duursema (penciler of X-FACTOR): I'd probably be doing some kind of interior design — pottery or construction. I like to build things. Either that, or I'd be in a trailer park in Ohio waiting for a tornado, since comics people aren't qualified to do anything else!

Mike Marts (assistant editor): I'd probably be relaxing while watching a Neil Young concert!

Neil Gaiman (writer, ALICE COOPER Limited Series): I don't know what I would be doing, but by now, whatever it is would have landed me three to five years inside!

Joe Madureira (penciler, UNCANNY X-MEN): I would want to do animation, but that takes too much patience. I suppose I could do storyboards for TV — I hear that pays pretty good. I would probably just do children's books. That looks like fun.

John Lucas (inker, BARBIE FASHION): I've done some work with Disney in Florida — set design, costume design, storyboard work — and I would probably pursue that full-time.

Lisa Zampella (assistant editor): I would still be in school, studying interior design and set design, or I would be a probation officer, which is what I was doing before I went back to school!

Colin MacNeil (artist, SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN): I would be an architect. That's what I was studying to become, but it seemed like too much work — the math, the physics, the chemistry — I didn't enjoy that too much! Being an artist, you're basically lazy!

John Hebert (penciler, X-MEN ADVENTURES): I'd probably be wrestling professionally. I would call myself John "Die-Hard Hebert, the Mr. Mayhem" ... the "Howling Mad" Hebert — yeah, that's it! Or I would mess around with classic cars — restoring, customizing, and selling them.

Darren Auck (penciler, ROCKO'S MODERN LIFE): I would be a reporter for the Weekly World News ... either that, or a host for the Psychic Friends Network!

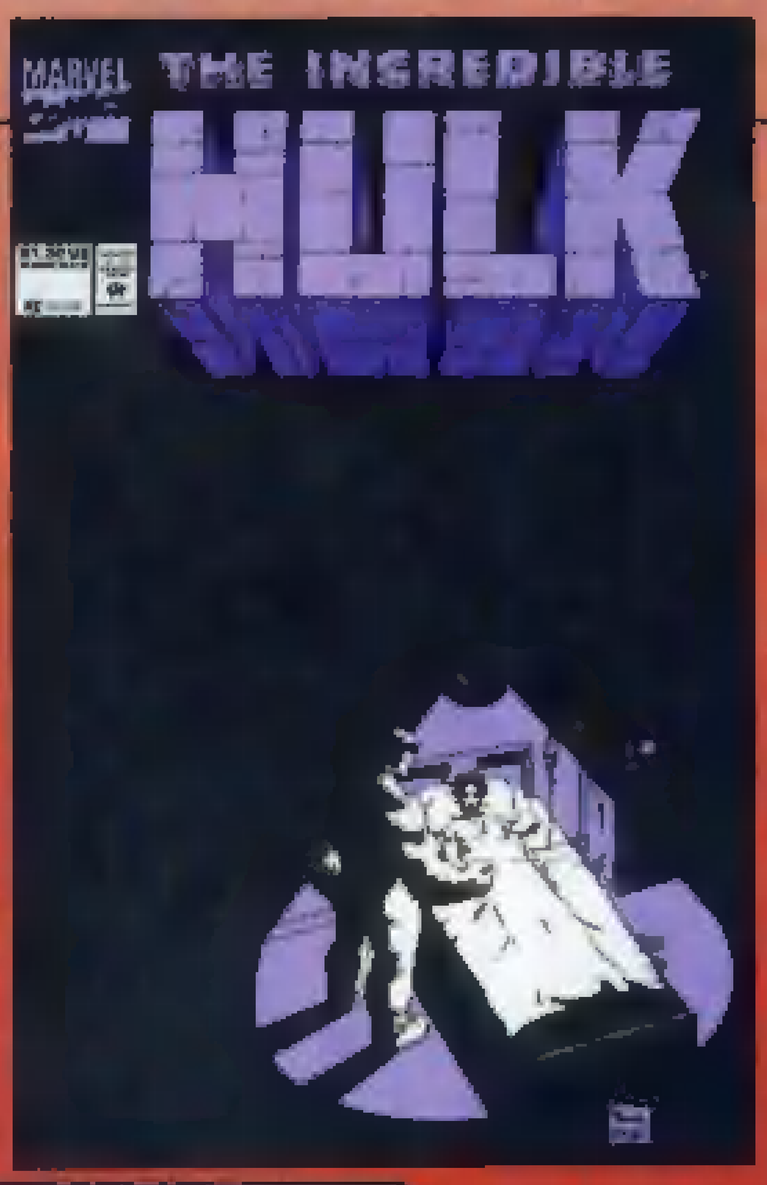
NEWSLINE

Marvel is well-known for its comics — but what you may not know is that we also publish some pretty nifty magazines, as well! This month marks the kickoff of our new bi-monthly NFL PRO-ACTION magazine, which, will have four issues this year coinciding with the football season.

Editor **Mindy Newell** notes that the NFL PRO-ACTION magazine is not just for football fans — it's for comics fans, too! In addition to articles on spring training and Dallas Cowboys running back Emmett Smith, issue #1 also contains a Spidey story by **Marc DeMatteis**, **Alex Saviuk**, and **Jimmy Palmiotti**, activity pages, and a tribute to **Jack Kirby** by **Stan Lee** and **John Romita**! When asked how she got the NFL PRO-ACTION assignment, Giants season ticket-holder Mindy responded, "(Special Projects) Executive Editor Bob Budiansky said he had to give it to me! I'm the only jock in the department!"

Also making a splash this month is our latest annual MARVEL ILLUSTRATED SWIMSUIT ISSUE, which is chock-full of heroes and heroines in skimpy swimwear! All your favorite Marvel mega-stars are featured in pinups by such greats as **Gary Frank**, **Carl Potts**, **Tom Raney**, **Bret Blevins** and many more. The **Brothers Hildebrandt** contribute a stunning painted centerfold, and **Adam Hughes** has painted a breathtaking cover of Namor and the Invisible Woman.

Finally, for the younger reader, we've got the mega-fun monthly SPIDER-MAN MAGAZINE, which is loaded with comics, puzzles, and articles for the little webber-snapper in your family!



HYPE BOX

An issue guaranteed to make you mad! Whatever your politics on the subject of AIDS; this issue is for you. There was an overwhelming response a few years ago in THE INCREDIBLE HULK #420, when Hulk's friend and former sidekick, **Jim Wilson**, admitted to being HIV positive. Now THE INCREDIBLE HULK revisits Jim Wilson, for the final time.

A not-to be missed story told eloquently by **Peter David**, **Gary Frank** and **Cam Smith**.

NOW ON SALE

- **AVENGERS #377:** Did you hear about **Hera**? She wants Hercules dead! By Hamas/Epting/Palmer!
- **BEAVIS & BUTTHEAD #6:** Join the boys on a quest for the greatest food of all! By Lackey/Parker!
- **BRATS BIZARRE #4:** It's time for the Brats to grow up fast! By Mills & Skinner/Adhikary/Fawcett & Scott!
- **BREAK THE CHAIN #1:** Includes cool cassette with all the dialog and rap music! By KRS-One/Baker!
- **CONAN THE ADVENTURER #3:** Golf-fee! Young Conan fights a **Golem**! By Thomas/Kayanan!
- **CONEHEADS #3 OF 4:** The Coneheads return to their homeland: *France*! By Collins/Richmond/Severin!
- **COSMIC POWERS #6:** Thanos's plans are revealed! Plus the secret of Tyrant! By Marz/Eaton/Anderson!
- **DOOM 2099 #30:** Will Doom clip Bloodhawk's wings in the **Savage Land**? By Moore/Broderick/Nyberg!
- **EXCALIBUR #80:** Doug Ramsey returns from the dead! By Lobdell & Ashford/ Lashley/Elliott!
- **GHOST RIDER 2099 #4:** Beware of the [illegible]! By Kaminski/Gross/ Buckingham!
- **G.I. JOE #151:** [illegible]-Eyes continues his one-man war against COBRA! By Haney/Gosier/Wallace!
- **INCREDIBLE HULK #420:** Has the Pantheon found the cure for AIDS? By David/Frank/Smith!
- **MARVEL AGE #139:** The **Punisher**/**Batman** crossover! Plus **Fantastic Force**!
- **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #151: Vengeance, Hawkeye, New Warriors!**
- **MARVEL SWIMSUIT SPECIAL 1994:** Hot shots of heroes and heroines!
- **MARVEL TALES #282:** Spidey & Silver Sable vs. the **Sinister Syndicate** by DeFalco/Frenz/ Breeding!
- **MORBIUS #24: Sealbak** returns to put the bite on Morbius! By Skinner & Mills/Napolitano/Cebreros!
- **NFL PRO ACTION #1 OF 4:** NFL info, plus a sporting Spider-Man story! By DeMatteis/Saviuk/ McLeod!
- **NOVA #8:** Splattered by **Shatterforce**! By Mariotte/Stegbauer!
- **ROCKO'S MODERN LIFE #3:** A mall — a rock concert — two night-[illegible] for Rocko! By Lewandowski & Cavalieri/Auck/ Fields!
- **SABRETOOTH CLASSICS #4:** Will Sabretooth make kitty litter of the **Black Cat**? By David/Buckler /McLeod!
- **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #224:** Some corpses don't know when to stay buried! By Thomas/ Watkins/Docherty/Cruz!
- **SPIDER-MAN #49:** The final tales of **Hobgoblin** and **Demogoblin**! By Mackie/Lyle/Hannah!
- **SPIDER-MAN MAGAZINE #5:** X-Men and Spidey stories for the young reader!
- **THOR ANNUAL #18:** Thor fights **Pluto** — and we don't mean Mickey Mouse's dog! By Thomas/DeCarlo!
- **TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION 2 #10:** Gearing up for the final battle! By Furman/Galan & Yaniger/ Arnold!
- **WARLOCK & THE INFINITY WATCH #31:** The abysmal origin of **Count Abyss**! By Starlin/Olliffe!
- **WHAT IF #64:** What if Tony Stark sold plans for the **Iron Man** armor? By Furman/Yanigher!
- **X-MEN #35:** Scott and Jean are back — but so are the malicious **Marauders**! By Nicieza/Kubert/ Ryan!
- **X-MEN 2099 #11:** The **Theatre of Pain** wants to audition Xi'an! By Moore/Lim/Sanders II!

SNEAK PREVIEW OF NEXT MONTH'S MARVEL TITLES!
WOLVERINE IN A DOUBLE-SIZED CLASH WITH THE SHINOBI!
JOHN BLAZE GETS HIS OWN TITLE AT LAST ... SPIDER-MAN MEETS THUNDERSTRIKE ... THOR BATTLES THE DESTROYER ...

CHRISTIAN L'ARGENT, I PRESUME.

HEAT GETTIN' TO YOU, PARD?

YOUR IGNORANCE BETRAYS YOU, AMERICAN.

I HAVE A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF THE WEB THAT ENTANGLES THE WORLD IN FALSEHOOD AND DECEPTION.

HERE I HAVE BEEN GIVEN VISION AND UNDERSTANDING.

HERE I HAVE FORSWORN MY CORPORATE ALLEGIANCES FOR THE TRUTH OF THE BLACK SUN.

THE CHILDREN OF THE DARK LIGHT KNOW THAT TECHNOLOGY IS A FALSE PATH THAT WILL BE WASHED AWAY IN BLOOD.

YOUR BLOOD.

SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC.

NO HAVE YOU FOUND YOUR *LOST* PET, *MY* SWEET, YOUR KNIGHT IN *BORROWED* ARMOR?

YOU ARE ALWAYS SO CERTAIN THESE *DIVERSIONS* WILL RETURN TO YOU.

HE REMAINS *LOST*-- BUT ONLY FOR THE *MOMENT*.

"Never fight fair with a stranger, boy. You'll never get out of the jungle that way."
—Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman*

YOU *DELIGHT* IN THESE *DISTRACTIONS* AS MUCH AS I.

OF ALL MY OPPONENTS YOU HAVE BEEN THE MOST *DANGEROUS*.

YOUR GAMES OFTEN PROVE *DEADLY*.

NEXT:

RITUAL SACRIFICE in the SAVAGE LAND

VOICES OF DOOM

C/O MARVEL COMICS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016

JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR
LIA PELOSI
ASSISTANT EDITOR

ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME & ADDRESS. ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO UPON REQUEST.

Out Of My Head

My apologies for the shape in which last issue arrived (what am I apologizing for? I had nothin' to do with it).

I am the sworn enemy of polybagging, no matter what the reason, no matter what form it takes. Again, it was done without my knowledge or consent, and it won't happen again.

Dear Joey,

I'm hooked. DOOM 2099 is one of the greatest comics to come along in years. My other favorite 2099 title is X-MEN 2099. They're the only two I collect. The best thing to come out of the "Fall of the Hammer" crossover was Doom's capture of Valhalla. I commend you for allowing Victor to survive the time-travel trip, but please, I hope you're not going to try to pull a Victor/Reed Richards mind-melding. We like the idea of Victor surviving and Reed dying.

This comic's going strong! Nice characters and supporting cast, superb writing and art! Issue #16 had a great story, but I think Victor already knew that world domination was not for him. Good work nonetheless. I can't wait to see what happens to Fortune. Also I like Wire a lot and thanks for the look at Wakanda.

J.B. Moore
(Address withheld by request)

We're planning to show you lots more of Wakanda in the near future, J.B.!

Dear DOOM 2099,

You have one of the most interesting, well-written and well-drawn comics going! Real people, real stories, real progression. I love how it all goes along from one thing to the next as if it's a grand novel.

I'd like to thank you guys and gals for making a comic about a "villain" work. A competitor of yours tried it a couple of times only to have them crash and burn. Keep up the good work on my favorite 2099 title! I look forward to seeing what's going to happen in the future, wherever you take it.

Steve Kopian
21 Roslyn Dr.
Glenhead, NY 11545

Yeah, we told our rivals that "Mussolini Comics and Stories" was a lousy marketing idea, but they wouldn't listen.

Dear *Voices of Doom*,

DOOM 2099 is still the best 2099 title. Some people may have other ideas, but I know what's what. The characters are awesome, the writing is top of the line and the art goes beyond excellent! And you have a quote in each issue, which adds to DOOM 2099's sense of depth.

I'm worried, though, that DOOM 2099 is losing ground. All that I've mentioned above is spectacular, but other areas seem weaker, specifically the plots and direction.

The first story arc with Tiger Wylde had the excitement of a whole new comic and there was a definite focus. But once Doom was triumphant that sort of dissipated. Doom's no longer out for world domination so his focus can't be as straightforward and unrelenting as it was. But restoration of Latveria and exploration of his new kingdom was set aside when Doom entered cyberspace. Once there, things went even farther astray. I enjoyed each issue, but spending so long away from reality doesn't seem very wise for a comic less than a year old.

I understand the desire to branch out and explore the new 2099 world. That's a necessity. But once a basic "home turf" has been established you need to return there regularly. After the cyberspace stories Doom was once again sidetracked.

Ever since issue #4, Doom has yet to purposely go somewhere or do something to further his own agenda. Instead, he's been playing other people's games. DOOM 2099 is about Doom but he seems to be the only one not pursuing his own interests! Doom should be a strong character. I by no means want him to be invincible; he isn't in the present. Occasionally falling victim to the hand of fate, then turning circumstances to his advantage is one of Doom's best talents. But I'd like to see more of him engineering and controlling situations.

As for the future, Necrotek was a great new villain...I don't know much about him except that he uses magic. I think a lot of others would like to see more of the mystic side to Doom. I hope you also involve Vox.

Matt Kuhns
200 Cherry St.
Anamosa, IA 52205

You might be surprised to hear this, Matt, but much of what you've said echoes our own thinking. You'll see that reflected as our Savage Land opus concludes.

Dear *Voices of Doom*,

Ever since SPIDER-MAN 2099 #3 and DOOM 2099 #1, I've been curious as to what happened to our interstellar contacts. Although the Y'lestja (cool name) are new, this is a development I feel was long overdue. Thank you.

DOOM is the only 2099 title that is capable of dealing with space travelers, good or evil. Good ol' Victor is the only 2099 character with the intelligence, power and global scope to fully appreciate, use or defend such a visit.

I wish everyone on the title good luck with the storyline and future astral projection. I guess we haven't seen the last of Markovkin. Please don't stop being the leader for all the other titles to follow.

Jeff Haardt
8044 Felicity Ct.
Springfield, VA 22153

No, you have seen the last of Markovkin, Jeff. On the other hand, you haven't seen the last of Redlun.

Dear Editor,

Now that Doom has the floating city of Valhalla, will this set the stage for a Doom/Spidey/Punisher/Ravage and Hulk crossover?

Curtis Duncan
1301 E. Oak St.
Compton, CA 90221

Oh, man, here we go again!

Dear *Voices of Doom*,

Ha! I've figured it out! I know who Doom really is! You'll never guess, readers. He's the one and only Dr. Doom! Yes, that's right, *the* Dr. Doom!!

Chris Ballentine
4200 Stonegate
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

What is it with all you guys still trying to guess whether this is the real Doom or not? Don't you all know that the secret to successful travel is to forget about getting to the destination in such a hurry and just enjoy the ride? Sheesh!

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

This is it, the month of the big SPIDER-MAN 2099 ANNUAL! It's our very first one ever, and it contains three big stories, all of which feature our fabled (and foibled) wall-crawler, not to mention the riotous return of a hero at your request! How can you miss this?

Speaking of requests, we guarantee that after reading X-MEN 2099 #11's fabulous story about the Driver, you'll want to see him and his wild vehicle, the Nitroburn, again and again!

NEXT ISSUE

The Savage Land stage is set, now the action can begin! Our offering next month is so big, John and Pat convinced Joey to shut up for a change and commandeered this page in the service of the story! Sheesh!